

During 2002, 39,338 live births occurred to Kansas residents, representing a birth rate of 14.5 per 1,000 population. This was a 0.7 increase from the 2001 rate of 14.4. ([Table 5](#))

In 2002, Seward, Geary, Finney and Grant counties had the highest county birth rates of 23.0, 22.0, 19.8, and 19.8 births per 1,000 population respectively. Liberal, Garden City and Junction City had the highest 2002 city birth rates of 25.2, 22.9, and 22.7 births per 1,000 population respectively. ([Tables 5](#) and [6](#), [Figure 11](#))

Seward, Geary and Finney counties had the highest five-year county birth rates of 23.9, 22.6, and 22.3 births per 1,000 population respectively. ([Table 5](#))

Since 1960, birth rates for Kansas have followed national trends and steadily declined. Kansas birth rates have decreased 35.6 percent during the last 40 years from a rate of 22.5 births per 1,000 population in 1962 to a rate of 14.5 in 2002. In 2002, the Kansas birth rate (14.5) was 4.3 percent higher than the national rate of 13.9. ([Table 7](#), [Figure 10](#))

Kansas fertility rates have followed national trends and indicate a steady decline from 118.5 to 68.6 births per 1,000 female population aged 15-44 in 1962 and 2002 respectively. The increase in the fertility rate from 1989 to 1990 and from 1999 to 2000 can be explained, in part, by the use of actual census counts for the 1990 and 2000 female population. The Kansas fertility rate in 2002 (68.6) was 5.9 percent higher than the national rate of 64.8. ([Table 7](#), [Figure 12](#))

Age-specific fertility rates for Kansas during the years 1992-2002 decreased 13.2 percent for the 15-24 age-group. Concurrently, age-specific fertility rates increased 16.3 percent for the 25-34 age-group and 25.6 percent for the 35-44 age-group. ([Table 8](#), [Figure 13](#))

In 2002, 39.2 percent of all Kansas live births occurred to women in the 15-24 age-group, 49.6 percent of live births occurred to women in the 25-34 age-group and 10.9 percent occurred to women in the 35-44 age-group. For comparison, in 2002, 24.6 percent of all Kansas live births had fathers in the 15-24 age-group, 53.9 percent had fathers in the 25-34 age-group, and 19.4 percent had fathers in the 35-44 age group. ([Tables 9](#) and [10](#))

Of the births to mothers 10-19 years of age, where the age of the father is known, nearly one-third (32.9 percent) of fathers were 10-19 while over two-thirds (67.1 percent) of fathers were 20 and over. ([Table 9](#))

Over eight percent (8.6) of live births in 2002 were preterm (less than 37 completed weeks of gestation) while 91 percent (91.4) occurred at 37 or more weeks of gestation. ([Table 11](#))

In 2002, 86.8 percent of all Kansas resident births were to mothers who received prenatal care that began in the first trimester (first 3 months) of pregnancy, 10.4 percent began in the second trimester, and 2.1 percent began in the third trimester. Less than 1 percent (0.7) received no prenatal care. ([Table 12](#))

Pregnancy Outcomes (Cont.)

Of the 39,338 Kansas resident live births in 2002, 80.4 percent received adequate or better prenatal care, including 25.1 percent with adequate-plus care; 19.6 percent received less than adequate prenatal care, including 8.7 percent with inadequate care. ([Table 13](#))

Doniphan county had the highest percentage of mothers with adequate or better prenatal care (94.0 percent) followed by Smith (93.1 percent) and Linn counties (93.0 percent). Gray county had the lowest percentage of adequate or better prenatal care (50.5 percent), followed by Graham (52.4 percent) and Hodgeman counties (57.1 percent). ([Table 13](#))

In 2002, 81.7 percent of Kansas live births both occurred to women 15-34 years of age and weighed between 2,500-4,499 grams. ([Table 15](#))

Birth weights for Kansas live births in 2002 were distributed as follows: 7.0 percent of live births weighed under 2,500 grams (low birth weight), 91.7 percent weighed 2,500-4,499 grams (normal birth weight), and 1.3 percent weighed over 4,499 grams (heavy birth weight). ([Tables 14](#) and [15](#))

In 2002, 37.9 percent of Kansas live births were first births. Of the 14,915 first births, 56.7 percent occurred to women in the 15-24 age-group. ([Table 16](#), [Figure 14](#))

In 2002, 88.5 percent of Kansas live births were to white mothers, 7.3 percent were to black mothers, and 4.2 percent were to mothers of other races. Furthermore, 51.0 percent of Kansas live births were male and 49.0 percent were female. ([Table 17](#))

In 2002, there were 12,121 out-of-wedlock births to Kansas residents. Of those births, 70.7 percent occurred to women in the 15-24 age-group. For comparison, in 1992, 72.6 percent of the 9,183 out-of-wedlock births occurred to women in this age group. ([Table 18](#))

The out-of-wedlock birth ratio has continued an upward trend over the years in both Kansas and the U.S. Out-of-wedlock births comprised 30.8 percent of all live births that occurred to Kansas residents in 2002, a 26.7 percent increase from 24.3 percent of live births in 1992. The out-of-wedlock birth ratio in 2002 was 8.9 percent lower than the U.S. proportion (33.8 percent) of births to unmarried women. ([Table 1](#), [Figure 15](#))

The pregnancy rate for females ages 10-19 decreased 18.7 percent from 34.8 pregnancies per 1,000 in 1992 to 28.3 in 2002. Teen pregnancy rates for females ages 10-17 decreased 26.6 percent during this same time frame. ([Table 19](#), [Figure 18](#))

In 2002, 87.7 percent of non-teen mothers of live births received prenatal care in the first trimester of pregnancy, while only 73.6 percent of teen mothers received prenatal care in the first trimester. The percent of teens who received no prenatal care (1.2) was higher than that for non-teens (0.6). ([Figure 16](#))

Of the births to teenage women in 2002, 84.0 percent were to whites and 12.9 percent were to blacks. For comparison, in 1992, 79.5 percent of births to teenage women were to whites and 18.2 percent were to blacks. ([Figure 17](#))

Pregnancy Outcomes (Cont.)

Teenage pregnancy rates for black mothers fell more steeply from 1992-2002 than rates for other population groups. The pregnancy rate for black females ages 10-19 decreased 39.0 percent from 79.5 pregnancies per 1,000 in 1992 to 48.5 in 2002. Black teens still have one of the highest rates. Although the rate for Hispanic teens (10-19) has declined since 1998, they have the highest rates overall for any population group. ([Table 20](#))

In 2002, 58.6 percent of the reported fetal deaths occurred to mothers in the 20-29 age-group. ([Table 23](#))

Fetal death rates in 2002 were highest for unmarried mothers: 5.3 per 1,000 live births plus fetal deaths. ([Figure 19](#))

In 2002, the abortion ratio for Kansas residents was 160.1 abortions per 1,000 live births, a decrease of 2.7 percent from the 164.6 ratio in 1992. Ratios increased from 1991 to a high of 186.3 in 1996, then generally declined for the next six years. ([Figure 20](#), [Table 24](#))

The abortion ratio for Kansas residents in 2002 varied substantially by age-group. The ratio per 1,000 live births was highest for women under 20 years of age. Since 1980, the abortion ratio declined for women in age groups under 20 and above 29. ([Figure 21](#))

In 2002, 6,298 abortions reported were performed for Kansas residents and 5,546 were performed for non-Kansans. Of the 6,298 resident abortions, 79 occurred out of state. ([Figure 23](#), [Tables 24](#) and [26](#))

Of Kansas residents having abortions, 55.0 percent were in the 15-24 age-group, 81.1 percent were unmarried and 75.4 percent were white. ([Figure 23](#), [Table 25](#))

In 2002, 59.4 percent of all reported abortions occurred prior to nine completed weeks of gestational age. Fourteen (14.4) percent of teenage women obtained an abortion after 16 weeks gestation, compared to 7.1 percent of women 20 and older. ([Table 26](#), [Figure 24](#))

Eighty-one percent (81.7) of all reported abortions in 2002 were to unmarried women. Among black women, 89.0 percent were unmarried, while 80.9 percent of white women and 75.8 percent of Hispanic women were unmarried. ([Table 27](#))

Eighty-four percent (84.2) of all reported abortions were performed prior to the 13th week of gestation. Suction curettage was the procedure used in 79.7 percent of these terminations. Only 8.5 percent of induced terminations were performed after 16 weeks gestation, and 52.2 percent of these used Digoxin/Induction and 46.8 percent used dilation and evacuation. ([Table 29](#))

The percentage of women who obtained an abortion early in pregnancy (less than 9 weeks of gestation) increased with age up to 30-34 years of age, and the percentage who obtained an abortion late in pregnancy (greater than 21 weeks of gestation) decreased with age for women up to 20-24 years of age and generally increased in older age-groups. ([Figure 25](#))